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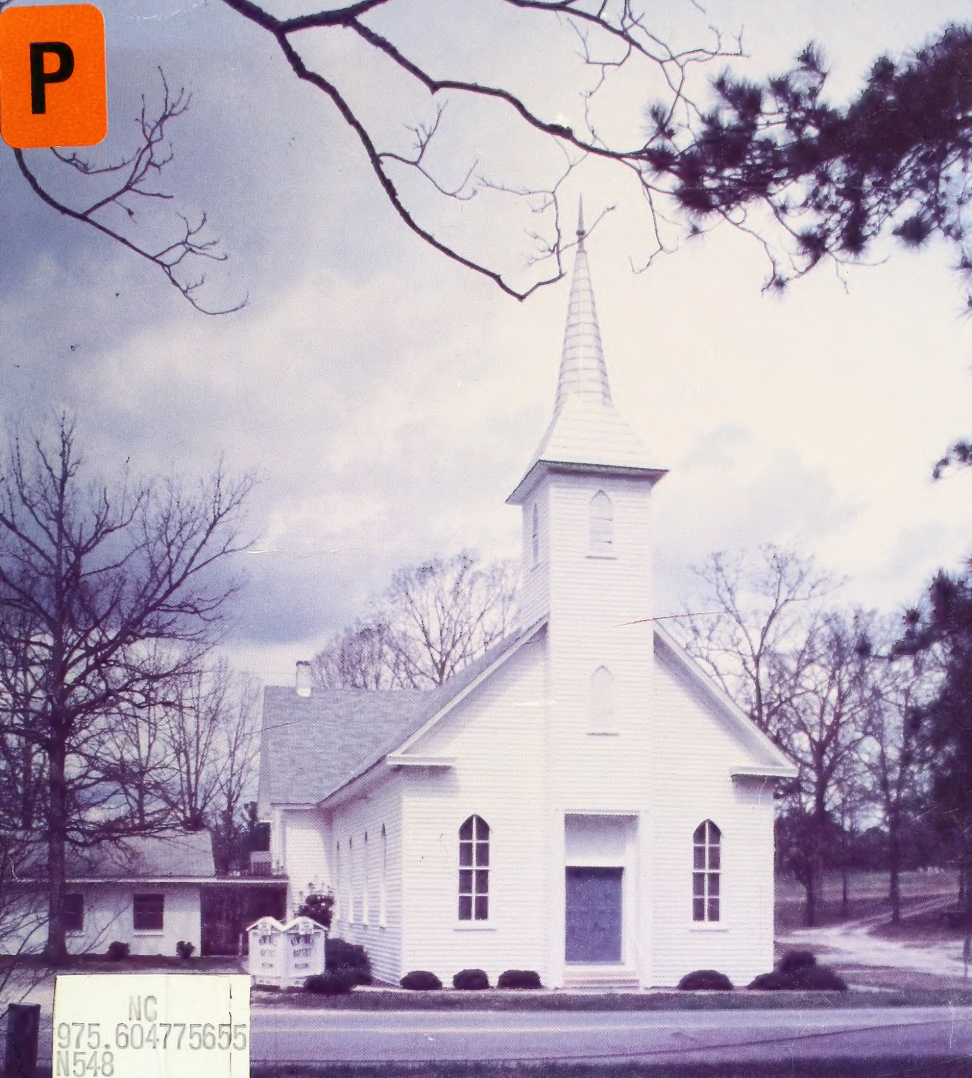

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NEW HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1888-1988

SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS MARCHING ON

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North Carolina State Library
Raleigh, N.C.

As a member of the New Hill Baptist Church Family, I am very excited about our Centennial Pictorial Directory. God has led us in this endeavor and our every effort in its publication is to glorify the name of Jesus Christ. As one views the history and heritage of New Hill, one cannot but marvel at what God has done. One hundred years of unity is certainly worthy of our motto, "Soldiers of the Cross Marching On". We look forward to the future with great joy and optimism. Elsewhere in this directory you will find a listing of the pastors and other leaders who have ministered to New Hill during the past one hundred years. We are grateful to God for each one of them, and we are equally grateful to all the faithful members who have served through the years. They have led us well; therefore, we make the following Proclamation, which we pray will be testimony to where we stand as a Church Body, united for Christ, soldiers marching onward.

In Christ,

James R. Caple

PROCLAMATION

I Corinthians 15:1
Now I make known to you brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand -

We, the members of New Hill Baptist Church, realize that to proclaim the Gospel of Christ is our first and foremost responsibility. We are to be bearers of God's Word, the Good News of the Holy Bible, that Christ died for sinners to bring humanity back into a right relationship with God the Father. We believe the Gospel message was, is, and shall always be God's power that effects salvation to all, the source of a renewed relationship.

We believe that the Proclamation of the Gospel is absolutely essential, that in the telling of God's love through Christ, we effect the Power of God in lives of others. We believe that Christ Himself commissioned us to go to others and tell them the good news of salvation to all by faith in His atoning death and resurrection.

Thus we propose, this twenty-second day of February, nineteen hundred and eighty eight, to begin our second hundred years of service to God with an ever deepening desire to be a church renewed in its efforts to be obedient to the message of salvation found only in Christ Jesus, and to follow the pattern He has set for us as a New Testament Church. Therefore, we humbly invoke the leadership of His Holy Spirit to lead and direct us in the years that lie ahead, that we might be an effective Church, never having to be ashamed of our Heritage or Doctrine, both of which play a part of our ministering to others.

48155

North Carolina State Library
Raleigh

Presented by

W. W. Womble

A MESSAGE FROM UGANDA TO NEW HILL BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERS

February 8, 1988

Dear Friends at New Hill,

Meg **Roger**
Joel **Sarah**

GOD IS SO GOOD! GOD IS SO GOOD TO US! My desire is that this letter reaches you in time for the beginning of the 100th anniversary of New Hill Baptist Church later this month. We depend upon God's grace, which is unfailing! and the postal service, which is somewhat less dependable! to get it to you in time. Our prayers for each of you continues and we love you because you are our friends. First of all, we want to thank you for the gift at Christmas time and the video which we received last Saturday, 2/6/88, with the arrival of Meg's parents. My eyes filled with tears and my heart with the love of our Savior as I watched the video of the Christmas program, the rest homes, and each of your personal messages. We thank you for your faithfulness in continuing to serve in that community. Each of you are special to us. We praise God for the two years we shared together. We love each of you. May God continue to bless New Hill Baptist Church for at least another 100 years--or until Christ comes!

In His Service,

Roger Meg Sarah Joel

Roger & Meg, Sarah and Joel

The Hesch Family is serving with the Uganda Mission of the Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, and living in Entebbe, Uganda. They covet your prayers for a faithful witness, health and safety, and for the growth of the Ugandan churches in evangelism and discipleship.

48155

OUR DEACONS: Ken Barker; Jeff Poe, (Jr. Deacon); Donnie Dix; Wallace Womble; Bob Poe; Ernest Gardner; W.T. Roundy; James Palmer; Percy Barbee; C.J. Beckwith

CHURCH CHOIR: Jeff Smith, Director
Thelma Gardner, Organist/Pianist

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: Linda Barker; Andy Poe; Magdalene Beckwith; C.J. Beckwith; Bob Poe; Kenneth Barker; others unavailable

WMU: Linda Barker, Pres.; Margaret Palmer; Nola Hyatte; Nancy Leasure; Bobbie Cagle; Dot Owens; Elizabeth Eanes; Mary Dix; others unavailable

CHURCH CLERK:
Nancy Leasure

REST HOME MINISTRY: Rev. James Cagle; Liz Poe; Ken Barker; not pictured, Margaret Palmer

CHURCH TRUSTEES: Ernest Gardner; W.T. Roundy; W.W. Womble

MOST YEARS SERVED AS DEACON:
Wallace Womble

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: W.W. Womble; Andy Poe; Linda Barker; Pansy Womble; Mabel Lawrence; Ileane Seagroves; Rev. Cagle

OLDEST MARRIED COUPLE: (60 years married) Ileane & Vaton Seagroves

OLDEST LIVING MEMBER:
Ernie Horton (94 yrs.)

Bob & Dixie Everest
Unavailable for photography

48155

NEW HILL BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY 1888 - 1988

by Linda Barker & Wallace Womble

February 22, 1888 - 1895

New Hill Baptist Church came into existence February 22, 1888, when Bros. H. Daniel and Rufus Gardner, and Sisters Linda M. Daniel, Lucy Daniel, Lizzie Daniel, and Ardelia Utley (mother of Ernie Horton) from Olive Chapel Church, and Bros. R.J. Bennett and J.J. Welch, and Sisters D.C. Bennett and Lucetta Welch from Shady Grove Church gathered in the borrowed facilities of the then-active New Hill Christian Church in order to found a new congregation. With the assistance of Rev. J.M. Holleman, C.T. Bailey, A.N. Campbell, and J.W. Collins, the New Hill Baptist Church was organized and set upon its way to service for God and community. Elected to the deacon board was H. Daniel and J.J. Welch; these two men were already ordained in their former churches. Rev. J.M. Holleman was called as pastor; Rufus Gardner was elected church clerk. Approximately one acre of land was donated to build a church by Bro. Merrill Olive to H. Daniel, R.J. Bennett, and J.J. Welch, Trustees. It was decided to proceed to raise funds for the church building. One hundred ninety-five dollars was subscribed to on this date, work to begin at once, with J.M. Holleman as chairman of the building committee. The church building, which houses the present sanctuary, was ready for use late in 1888. It was a frame structure with frosted glass windows, a steeple and bell, and a seating capacity of 200. Preaching services were held on the second Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m., and service and business conference on the Saturday preceeding the preaching Sunday. The first protracted (revival) meeting was held the first day of August 1888. Some of those coming to New Hill Church from Shady Grove during the year were: A.W. Barker, Nancy A. Bright, William and Narcissa Bright, J. Bright, W.R. and Hetta Bennett, Thomas Seagroves and wife, and Cida Lashlee. From Mt. Pisgah came Caridas Mason, and from Raleigh, W.P. Horton. At the September conference the church voted to join the Little River Association with meeting to be held at Friendship and delegates appointed. Membership in the church at the end of the year 1888, was reported as 34. The church endorsed the action of Shady Grove in licensing Bro. R.J. Bennett (now a member of New Hill Church) to preach; Rev. Bennett was ordained November 28, 1889. Joining by Christian experience in 1889 was Thomas Gardner, Albert Alfonza Seagroves, and Sarah Collins; from Shady Grove came T.B. Seagroves, W.H. and Mariah C. Bennett, Olivia A. Bennett, and Mitchell A. and Rebecca Barker. From Collins Grove came J.H. and Mary Collins, deacon and deaconess; and from Apex came Deacon J.J. Edwards and daughter, and Sister A.E. Edwards from Olive Chapel; M.F. Utley joined by Christian experience. The church decided at the July conference in 1889 to have a meeting of days, an annual fast day on Friday before the July meeting; at the September conference they voted to purchase a church Bible for $2.50; in October J.J. Welch

was elected church treasurer; baptism was held at J.J. Welch's pond. In February 1890 conference, the American Baptist Publication Society presented twenty-four Bibles to the church. In November conference, the lowest bidder for sexton was $1.50 per year (minutes later show that only $.80 was paid). At the April conference 1891, Bro. J.J. Edwards was elected as the first Sunday School Superintendent, W.P. Horton the Assistant Superintendent; at the August conference the church agreed to try to raise money to finish ceiling the church, walls, and overhead, (the interior walls of solid pine in a diagonal wainscot pattern, are the same today as then). In the March 1892 conference, on motion, the church voted to meet on Sunday morning to organize Sunday School. In May, J.J. Welch reported that he had ordered and received Sunday School books for $1.54; November, church voted to sell remainder of left over ceiling to Bro. J.M. Holleman for $1.00 per hundred feet. Arthur Edwards joined the church by faith in 1892. He became a deacon and able leader serving in many positions of the church until his death. The church now had a total of 72 members. After serving eight years as pastor, November 1895, Rev. Holleman resigned.

1896 - 1899

In January 1896, D.C. Britt was called by ballot; there were 19 new members and 14 dismissals during his four years as pastor. Ida Seagroves was received by letter from Cumberland Union Baptist Church. This was a difficult time to raise money for both pastor's salary and other endeavors, but in July 1896, the church voted to raise money to paint the church; nineteen months later $10.40 was still owed on the project. In October 1896, among those joining the church by profession of faith was Magie (Margaret) Bright. Miss Margaret Bright, lifelong resident of New Hill, and graduate of Meredith College in Raleigh, became one of our most faithful members. She was very active in all phases of church life, and one of the Sunday School classrooms is now named in her honor. "Miss Margaret" welcomed overnight preachers in her home (now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Gardner), and school teachers boarded there during the time of West Wake School, New Hill; also, her home was used for the bookmobile to make their stops and leave books for the community's reading enjoyment. If space permitted, one could write so much about her love and dedication and the influence she had on the church and community of New Hill. The church budget for the year 1899 was: Foreign Missions, $1.27; Home Missions, $1.74; State Missions, $1.36; Association Missions, $3.06; Ministerial Education, $.55; Orphanage, $1.55; Minister and Clerk Fee, $1.25; and Pastor's Salary, $65.00. For each project one person was appointed to collect the money for that particular endeavor. In August 1899, Rev. Britt resigned effective January 1, 1900.

1900 - 1903

The third pastor of New Hill Baptist Church was Rev. S.W. Oldham, called in October of 1899. There were 18 new members and 10 dismissals during his pastorate. In August 1901, after a series of revival meetings, ten people joined the church by profession of faith; one

being Ada J. Bright. She became a very active and faithful member of the church supporting with her time and money as long as she lived. "Miss Ada" married Vester Mimms; she was an accomplished pianist, and played the piano in the church for many, many years. On Sunday following the September 1901 conference, a meeting was held at the waters of Little White Oak ford for baptismal services where ten people were baptized. After serving three years, Rev. Oldham resigned as pastor in November 1903.

1904 - 1907

Rev. J.M. Holleman accepted a call as pastor in January 1904; during his second pastorate there were 38 new members, 32 by baptism, and 16 dismissals. In April 1904, the church met on a Sunday morning to organize a Sunday School; at this point it is not clear whether they had discontinued the Sunday School that was organized in 1891. There were no Sunday School rooms at this time; they curtained off classrooms within the sanctuary. In August 1904, Bro. John Bright joined by profession of faith and became a lifetime faithful member. Mr. Bright was a deacon and longtime treasurer of the church. During August 1905, revival services began on Friday before the first Sunday and continued until the second Sunday. In October 1906, ten new members were baptized after eight days of revival. Joining the church at this time were Tom and Esther Lawrence. After an eight-day revival in August 1907, 15 people were received by baptism; included in this group were Ernie Utley (Horton) and Viola Holland (Mason). At this time, Mrs. Ernie Utley Horton is the oldest living member of New Hill Baptist Church. Rev. J.M. Holleman had served the Shady Grove Baptist Church two terms before becoming pastor at New Hill. He resigned from New Hill Baptist Church in December 1907 after serving four years.

1908 - 1910

The fifth pastor was Rev. E.M. Lassiter who served from January 1908 until November 1910. During this time there were six new members and eleven dismissals. In August 1908, revival services were held and guest preacher was Rev. G.T. Mills of Buies Creek. Rev. Mills later served the Green Level Baptist Church for many years, and his son, William, began his ministry at New Hill Baptist Church. October 1909, the church left New River Association to join the Raleigh Association. Five people were received by faith into the church in July 1910. Rev. E.M. Lassiter resigned in November 1910.

1910 - 1912

Rev. O.P. Mitchell became pastor in December 1910. Ten new members were added that year with nine dismissals. Baptism for three people was held at T.L. Gardner pond (now owned by Wayne & Phyllis Womble) on September 3, 1911; and four people joined by faith in September 1912. Rev. O.P. Mitchell resigned in December 1912 after serving two years.

1913

Rev. R.E. Atkins became pastor in January 1913 serving until December 1913. There were

two new members this year and seven dismissals.

1914 - 1915

In January 1914, Rev. W.T. Tate was pastor; during his pastorate there were 28 new members and 38 dismissals. In July 1914, a motion was made that all male members were required to attend the church conference at least once in three months. During revival in September 1914, 15 members came into the church by faith and two by letter, and in October, 14 people were granted letters of dismissal. Rev. W.T. Tate resigned in May 1915.

1916 - 1918

Rev. P.A. Hicks served as pastor from June 1916 until August 1918. He resigned in August 1918, and Rev. Smith was elected to serve as pastor for remainder of the year.

1919 - 1924

Rev. C.H. Norris became the tenth pastor in February 1919. Joining the church that year was Ila Clark (Broadwell) and Lizzie Clark (Tingen). January 1920, Rexie and Virgie Seagroves, and Vaton and Ileane Seagroves were received into the fellowship. There are no records available from May 1920 through December 1923; however, Mrs. Annie Smith came by letter from Morrisville Baptist Church during this time. In 1924, the pastor's salary was raised to $350 per year, and the Sunday School annex to the rear of the church sanctuary was added. There was space for eight classrooms, but only two were completed at this time; additional rooms were finished as needed until the eighth room was completed in 1956. On May 31, 1924, Rev. Norris resigned.

1925 - 1932

Rev. H.C. Sears from Mt. Pisgah community was pastor from November 30, 1924, until December 1932. In June 1928, motion to pay A.J. Edwards $100 for the acre of land that he purchased for the church. This acre of land lies to the west of the original church land. In 1929, E.C. Churchill and Michael Lienau became a member. Mr. Churchill was a longtime song leader for the church. September 1930, following revival services in which Dr. Pittard assisted Pastor Sears, 18 people accepted Christ and joined the church. Among these were Magdalene Seagroves (Beckwith), and W.T. Roundy, Jr. Joining the church by letter in January 1933, was Mr. & Mrs. L.P. Oldham. Mr. Oldham was a lifetime deacon. In December 1932, Rev. Sears resigned.

1933 - 1940

From Jonesboro came Rev. T.Y. Seymour in June 1933. In September 1933 a joint revival service was held with the Christian Church with Mr. Talley as speaker. New Hill Church had approximately 130 members in the early '30's. Six people joined by letter on February 10, 1935; among them was Carey Bennett. The early 1930's was a very hard time for all and the church did not hold regular conferences; the time for church conference was changed from Saturday to Sunday and Sunday nights. Beginning on Sunday, July 12, 1936, there

was a revival through the following Friday night. Sixteen people joined the church, among them were Edith Lawrence, Dillard Mason, Dixie Seagroves, and Orus Gardner. They were baptized in Mrs. Donie Gardner's pond. After serving for seven years, Rev. Seymour resigned in 1940.

1941 - 1942

Rev. James Atkins from Fuquay-Varina was pastor from March 1941 - 1942. He also served as pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church and other churches in the area. Rev. Atkins is the oldest living former pastor of New Hill Church; he is now retired and lives in Fuquay-Varina. When he was called, the church services were changed to the first Sunday morning and third Sunday evening. The church clerk wrote letters to members who had not attended for a long time and asked if they wished their name to remain on the roll. This was a marked change from the original way of withdrawing fellowship from those with poor attendance and support records. On August 30, 1942, Ruby Lashley (Morris) and Max Horton joined the church by baptism.

1943 - 1949

Rev. C.H. Norris of Wake Forest was called to serve a second time as pastor in January 1943. During revival services in August 1943, Raymond Franklin and Herman Tingen joined the church by letter. Revival services that were planned for July 1944, were postponed due to the polio epidemic. In September of that year, Rev. Garland Hendricks of Olive Chapel assisted in revival services; 8 people were baptized. C.J. Beckwith, Doris Palmer, and Evelyn Settle joined by baptism in August 1946; C.J. has served as deacon, treasurer, song leader, and taught the Men's Sunday School Class faithfully for many years. October 1946, Mrs. Ada Palmer united with the church by letter. In January 1947, Bob and Dixie Everest came by letter, and in March of that year Ernest Gardner joined by letter from Shady Grove. After revival services in September 1947, eleven were baptized; and in September 1948, four people joined the church, among these were Alice Mason and James Palmer, our current treasurer. In March 1949, Rev. Norris resigned after serving six years.

1949 - 1950

On August 28, 1949, our fifteenth pastor, Rev. William Mills of Cary was called until such time as he would leave for the seminary. The church voted in January 1950 to have business conferences quarterly with a report from the church treasurer, W.M.S., Sunday School, and B.T.U.; and also, to have preaching on first and third Sundays. Rev. Mills also served Pleasant Plains Church and Cumberland Union. On March 5, 1950, the church voted to start a renovation of the church which resulted in a new paint job, new hardwood floor, new pews, carpet, pulpit furniture, piano, and song books. Rev. Mills resigned in July 1950.

1950 - 1952

Rev. Warren Turner of Wake Forest was pastor from November 1950 until April 1952. Church

services were set for first Sunday morning and third Sunday night. Mae Lawrence Barbee joined by letter in January 1950; and in April 1951, Wallace and Pansy Womble joined by letter from Collins Grove and Green Level, respectively. In September 1951, Arthur J. Edwards, who had served faithfully as Sunday School Supt., resigned, and Wallace Womble was elected Superintendent.

1952 - 1956

Rev. Wyatt Coley was pastor from August 1952 through January 1956. Church services were set for second and fourth Sunday. In 1952, the church voted to finish another Sunday School room. During revival on October 26, 1952, Ruth Roundy, Mary Gardner, Elizabeth Ferguson, and Mary Seagroves joined the church by baptism. February 1953, Percy Barbee came by letter. The deacons in previous years were elected lifetime deacons; those deacons were: H. Daniel, J.J. Welch; W.C. Bright; A.F. Seagroves; Thomas Lawrence; W.K. Ragan; W.S. Olive; W.H. Bennett, Arthur Edwards; John Bright; N.G. Horton; L.P. Oldham; and Wallace Womble and Orus Gardner. On April 12, 1953, the church voted to discontinue lifetime deacon selection; the deacons serving resigned in order to begin the current rotating system. The new Deacon Board was as follows: serving four years, Wallace Womble and Orus Gardner, and serving two years, Max Horton, W.T. Roundy, Jr., and C.J. Beckwith. Other persons who are known to have been deacons at some point in time are: Luther Smith, Caley Palmer, Linwood Lawrence, Percy Barbee, Raymond Franklin, Daniel Beckwith, Henry Renfrew, Laddy Utley, Bobby Poe, Oscar Mason, James Mason, Kenneth Barker, James Palmer, Donnie Dix, Ernest Gardner, Ronald Hinsley, Jack Blalock, John Ogni, Dillard and Roy Mason. The first recorded Homecoming Service was held in June 1955; there was a large attendance. The pastor, Rev. Coley, brought the morning sermon; two former pastors brought the afternoon messages, Rev. H.C. Sears and C.H. Norris. On September 25, 1954, new gas heaters were installed in the church at a cost of $749. Mrs. Elizabeth Eanes joined by letter on September 25, 1955. January 22, 1956, a decision was made to finish the eighth Sunday School room upstairs. January 22, 1956, Rev. Coley resigned.

1956 - 1957

Rev. Bobby Coats of Raleigh became our eighteenth pastor, coming in April 1956. Linda Barbee (Barker) joined by baptism on April 22. In July, the first record of bulletins is made; in October the Church Budget was approved; pastor's salary was $1,080; total budget that year was $2,452.50. The building fund was begun for a parsonage on December 9, 1956: Mrs. Ada Mimms donated 3/4 acre of land for same. Also, December 16, the first record of the now traditional fruit/candy treat after Christmas programs is made; a gift of offering plates was presented to church by Rev. and Mrs. Coats on December 23, 1956. On January 13, 1957, Margaret Palmer united by letter, and in April, 12 people joined during revival service. In August 1957, Wayne Womble and Edward Sauls joined the church. Rev. Coats resigned

February 1958.

1958 - 1959

Rev. George Newman was called in May 1958. The church went to full time preaching and the pastor's salary was set at $1,680 a year. In March conference, the church voted to build the choir loft. September 13, 1959, six people joined the church, among them was Belle Holland who came by letter and Gloria Holland by faith. In October 1959, decision was made to begin building the parsonage with help from members to do as much work as possible, and to proceed with construction as far as money collected would go. Also, Wallace Womble, W.T. Roundy, Jr., and Orus Gardner were appointed to serve on the newly formed cemetery committee. In October 1959, Rev. Newman resigned.

1960 - 1962

The twentieth pastor was Rev. James Bohannon coming in April 1960; the church returned to half time preaching; services were held on the second and fourth Sundays. In January 1961, the W.M.U. reported a luncheon meeting at Mrs. Maude Lineau's home with guest speaker, Mrs. Willard Adkinson, President of W.M.U., Raleigh Association. In April 1961, the church voted to finish construction of parsonage by calling members to give as much money as possible, then to borrow the remainder. In October 1961, for the first time in its history, the church voted to borrow $5,500 from a lending establishment to complete the parsonage. On December, 10, 1961, the parsonage was completed and open house was held. Rev. Bohannon was the first occupant. June 1962, after revival services with guest preacher, Wyatt Coley, eleven people were added to the church roll, Rev. Bohannon resigned in December 1962.

1963 - 1965

On May 5, 1963, the church called Rev. Joseph Creech as pastor. J.G. Smith joined the church during his ministry. The church voted to purchase winecolored choir robes for a total cost of $94 on June 16, 1963. On July 14 of that year, the voted to license Bro. James Womble to preach, and later ordained him into the ministry. The church conference was changed from preceeding to following morning worship service in January 1964. New frosted glass for the sanctuary windows was donated by the church deacons on February 9, 1964. On May 9, 1965, the church voted to return to full time preaching services; the Sunday School Superintendent reported an average attendance of 77 per Sunday. On June 13, 1965, the church voted to start a nursery. Rev. Creech resigned December 1965.

1966 - 1971

The twenty-second pastor was Rev. William L. Heath who came on May 15, 1966. It was reported that the parsonage indeptedness was paid in full. In 1967, Kenneth Barker came by letter from Olive Chapel Baptist Church. The Shady Grove Baptist Church, organized in 1823, was disbanded in 1968; coming to New Hill from Shady Grove were: Ray and Mabel Lawrence, Sam and Edith Lawrence, Bobby and Liz Poe. In 1968, joining by letter was Ila

Clark and Janice Lienau; Cathy Broadwell and Danny Beckwith came by profession of faith. In 1969, Debra Palmer, Chris Ferguson, Hal Lawrence, and Tommy Womble joined the church by profession of faith. Odell Eanes became a member Sept. 7, 1969. The church voted to give a Bible to each new convert. After a study in 1967, it was decided to drill a well and build an annex to include restrooms, classrooms, a nursery, a kitchen; a first for water or restrooms. The men of the church did the work on the annex, and it was completed debt free. Dedication services were held on June 27, 1971. The total cost (donated by members) was $11,672.62. Rev. Heath resigned July 1, 1971.

1971 - 1972

Rev. Richard Smith, of the NC State Baptist Convention, was elected interim pastor. Rev. Smith served for seventeen months. In January 1972, James and Helen Mason came by letter from Apex Baptist Church.

1972 - 1976

Rev. William Cashion was called as pastor in April 1972. One of the classrooms was converted into a pastor's study and church secretary's office. In 1972, Phyllis Womble and Nellie Renfrew came by letter, and Timothy Holland came by faith. In June of that year, 6 people joined the church by faith. Among them were Donna Holland (King), Dana Lee Holland, Michael Holland, and Jack Womack. June 1972, an organ was purchased for the church. During revival service with Rev. Carroll Calvert as guest speaker, 14 people joined the church by faith; among them were Peggy Horton, Patty Womble, Teresa Womack, and Mark Palmer. Baptism was held on July 9, at Wray Lawrence's pond for 24 converts. On August 6, Henry Renfrew was received by letter. In November of that year, former pastor William Heath, donated books to start a church library. Also, in 1972, Nancy Leasure, Billie Smith, Floyd and Daisy Cannon were received by letter. In April 8, 1973, an activity bus was purchased for the church use; Percy Barbee and James Mason were appointed to the bus committee. On October 28, a central air conditioner was donated by Ruby Lashley Morris, in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Kemp Lashlee. On February 10, 1974, approximately one acre of land, formerly the old Christian Church property, (directly behind the New Hill Baptist Church property) was turned over to the church by surviving members (Florence Wilson and Lector Ferguson) of the old Christian Church. The church building was later removed and the land is now used as additional cemetery plots. In December 1974, a fire proof file cabinet was purchased for the church. In September 1975, the church had its property lines surveyed by a registered surveyor and a map was made. In 1976, Andy and Robby Poe joined the church. Rev. Cashion resigned in April 1976; he and his family are now serving as foreign missionaries in Venezuela.

1976 - 1977

Rev. Willard Adkinson, retired pastor of Garner Baptist Church, was called as interim pastor in June 1976, and served until April 1977. Mrs. Ernie Horton deeded a small portion of land

for cemetery use in November 1976; this land joined the old Christian Church property on the west side.

1977 - 1979

The twenty-fourth pastor was Rev. Edward Hart coming from Rocky Mount, NC. In October 1977, new ceiling, paneling, and carpeting was added to all classrooms. In June 1978, Jeff Poe joined the church. In July 1978, the outside of the church building was repainted. Rev. Hart resigned in May 1979.

1980 - 1984

The church voted to begin proceedings of ordination for Roy D. Mason in February 1980, and Mr. Mason served as interim pastor until June 1, 1980, when he was called as pastor. Uniting with the church in 1980 were Donnie and Mary Dix, Ernest, Thelma and Karen Gardner; and joining the church in 1981 were Shawn Ogni, Rhonda Broadwell, and Stephen and Michelle Gunter. January 10, 1982, a ministry was begun in two local rest homes, the James Home and Morrison Home. Many of our members have served in the rest home ministry, at present they are: Kenneth Barker, Margaret Palmer, and Elizabeth Poe, along with Rev. Cagle. In March 1982, the church formerly approved this resolution: Ref: Establish a permanent perpetual care plan for the church cemetery, monies that had been collected for grave plots, plus monies donated by church members, were lumped together to form a permanent cemetery fund (approx. $3,000). This fund to be administered under the adopted guidelines by the church trustees, who at this time were — Orus Gardner, W.T. Roundy, Jr., and Wallace Womble. In May 1982, Marilyn Ferguson and Kathleen Broadwell came by letter. Also, in May, with the leadership of Patrick Beckwith as choir director, new blue choir robes were purchased. In August, approximately 3/4 acre of land that lies on the east side of the original church property, was given to the church by Annie Lashley Broadwell, with the understanding the church would give a right-of-way along the eastern border of the land, and the church would purchase 1/2 acre that is north of the old Christian Church property along which the right-of-way would also extend. At the same time a small strip of land was purchased from Carl Morris, which completes the total church property as of this date, and as indicated on Survey Map dated October 29, 1982, approximately 3.36 acres. In December 1982, Pat Beckwith was licensed by the church into the gospel of music ministry. In February 1983, the entire sanctuary was carpeted for the first time; in March, new blinds were donated anonymously for the windows of the sanctuary; in May, new shrubbery was planted around the church building. In August, the church established the position of youth minister; a previously unpaid position. In November, new hymnals were donated to the church by the W.M.U. In December, a new central heating system was installed in the sanctuary. In 1984, Kathy Wright and Chris Chambers were received by faith; and in May, Ernest Gardner was appointed church trustee to replace his brother, Orus. In August 1984, Rev. Mason resigned.

1984 - 1986

Rev. Roger Hesch came from South Carolina as pastor in November 1984. Jeff Smith was hired as music director in October 1985; his salary was set at $50.00 per week. In 1985, Charlotte Hammonds and Jodi Womble joined the church by profession of faith. In March 1986, Dorothy Owens came by letter; a regular monthly gospel sing was begun; and a Junior Deacon Board was established with Mark Palmer being the first Junior Deacon. In August of that year, the church pews, seats and backs, were padded, and in September, Kim Dix and Sarah Hesch were received by faith into the church. November 1986, Rev. Hesch resigned, and he with his wife, Meg, and children, Sarah and Joel, now serve as missionaries in Uganda.

1987 - Present

Rev. James Cagle became the twenty-seventh pastor June 7, 1987. The church ordained Mark Palmer into the ministry on August 9; Mark is now pastor of the Haywood Church, Moncure, NC. Rev. Cagle and Mrs. Cagle joined the church in August of 1987, and Vickie Cagle in November. September 1987, Jeff Poe was elected to the Junior Deacon Board. In October, a total church budget of $34,349.40 was adopted for the church year 1987 - 88; of this total $15,030.40 is for the pastor's salary and benefits, plus home and expenses; another $580 was to other paid staff members, and $3,460 for missions. In December 1987, Nola Hyatte joined the church. In 1988, the church membership is 175.

Notwithstanding the many improvements over the years, the sanctuary still imparts the simple beauty and purpose of its original construction. Looking back from 1988 to the year 1888, it would seem that our founding members had little to go on, but religion was a serious matter to them. Their faith was a necessary part of daily life, so their intentions were earnest, and the church grew. It is the existence of this original purpose that speaks the most of the one hundred years from the beginning of New Hill Baptist Church. The history of a building, or its occupants, is not the total history of a church. There is a spiritual history as well, and it is in this that a church sees its true character. The sermons preached, Sunday School lessons taught, words of wisdom exchanged, and lives shared would be impossible to enumerate, but they have kept the stream of faith flowing. It is now our responsibility to see that this faith continues into the next century. This is the best tribute to our past.

REPORT FROM CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE:

by Andy Poe, Chairman

To kick off our 100 year anniversary, a special service was held on Sunday, February 21, 1988, with Rev. James Cagle reading from First Corinthians, Chapter Eleven, Verse Two; the same text which Rev. J.M. Holleman used as he preached to that small group of Christians, February 22, 1888. The choir sang the same song, "Am I A Soldier of The Cross", as was sung by those first members, from whence came our theme: "Soldiers of the Cross Marching On". Plans were finalized for the year to include: Special recognition throughout the year of former ministers and members; an "Old-Fashioned" Day on Sunday, July 3, including releasing 100 red, white and blue balloons with special invitational messages attached; September 11, former pastor Rev. William Mills preaching the special homecoming message; a historical room providing important church documents, community items, and memorabilia of past years; burying a time capsule to be opened in February 2038 (50 years), containing letters, pictures, newspaper clippings, events of the year, etc.; and last, this pictorial and historical directory, which we trust you will be as proud of as those who compiled it to help celebrate our centennial year. The members serving on the Centennial Committee were: Andy Poe, Ileane Seagroves, Linda Barker, Mabel Lawrence, Wallace and Pansy Womble, and Rev. Cagle.

HISTORY OF NEW HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

by Wayne Womble

In the late 1700's the New Hill community and surrounding area was largely settled by farmers, many of whom settled as a result of land grants awarded to those who fought in the Revolution. By the mid-1800's established stagecoach roads from Raleigh to points west, and from Durham to Fayetteville, intersected at what is now New Hill. The point was marked by one house and a small country store. Shortly thereafter came the Civil War and railroading. The railroad followed the route of the Raleigh westward stage road and was called the Chatham Railroad. But still there was no "New Hill". The origin of the name is uncertain; however, the most accepted story is of a young couple who were married and settled at a point just southwest of the present location of the town. There were other settlements in the area with names utilizing the word "Hill"; such as, Brown's Hill and Chapel Hill. When asked what they would call this place, they decided that since there were so many other "Hills", they would call it "New Hill". An 1870 map locates the town about one mile to the southwest. By 1872 there was a post office at the town's present location and it took on the name New Hill. The population had increased dramatically and new businesses and services were in order. By the mid-1870's a new, very large general store was opened by C.J. Bright. It was fondly called the emporium because you could buy almost anything. The building still stands. On July 4, 1876, the nation

was celebrating its centennial, and Mr. Bright was selling beef at $.05 per pound and sugar at $.12-½ per pound. By the late 1880's New Hill was booming with activity! There was a new post office and railroad depot and New Hill was a scheduled stop for the now Seaboard Airline Railroad. There was a turpentine distillery, a large cider mill, and a daguerreotype picture shop, along with the other businesses. Just after the turn of the century, twin planer mills were operating and the products were shipped by rail. By 1905 there was a new depot and train station to accommodate the ever increasing demand for passenger service. The newfound prosperity prompted the community to seek to be incorporated. On March 4, 1907, the North Carolina General Assembly passed a bill of incorporation. City limits were set with the areas of the town being rectangular in shape, one mile in length to the east and west, and one-half mile in width to the north and south with the center being located at the intersection of the Seaboard Airline Railroad and old Fayetteville Road. T.L. Gardner was named mayor along with four commissioners. The town remained incorporated until 1917 when the charter was repealed. By 1920 the horse and carriage was steadily giving way to the new mode of travel, the automobile, and US Highway 1 had replaced the old stage route. To serve the local public and the travelers on the major north/south route, a service station and store was opened by W.T. Roundy, Sr., in 1928. The station is still in operation and celebrating its 60th year. In 1933 a restaurant and a motel were opened to serve the traveling public. One of their most famous guests was "Babe" Ruth who ate lunch at the restaurant. New Hill has gained and lost other businesses in the years hence, changing with the times as necessary. But most importantly, they have supplied the necessities of the local people, and thus have preserved the basic character of the surrounding area. The winds of change are blowing again. But this time they present a problem which is unique. People with various backgrounds from outside the community are dictating the changes. Changes which are on such a great scale that they threaten to alter the traditional character of the community and surrounding area. The large public projects of Carolina Power & Light Company and the Jordan Lake have taken large chunks of productive farm land. They have translocated people who rarely return to their former ties with the land. The influx of workers and visitors pressure the community for goods and services it cannot readily provide. The increased property tax base makes farming less profitable and hastens the conversion of land to other uses. Demand for those lands are ever increasing. The community's close proximity to industrial development and the large surrounding cities, along with the migration of people to rural areas, has already transformed much of these lands to residential uses. With these forces acting on the community, the wheels are in motion. Our hope is that we will always remember and maintain our link with the past and our heritage.

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BARKER, KENNETH & LINDA
MATT, KENT

BECKWITH, C.J.
& MAGDALENE

BECKWITH, DANNY

BENNETT, CAREY

BOOTH, CHARLOTTE
FRANCES

BROADWELL, ANNIE RUTH
RHONDA

BROADWELL, ERIC
& KATHLEEN

BROADWELL, ILA

CAGLE, JAMES & BOBBIE
VICKIE

DIX, DONNIE & MARY
EMILY

EANES, ODELL & ELIZABETH

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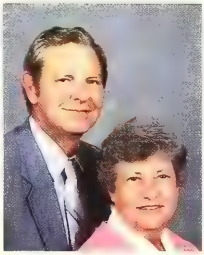

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HORTON, PEGGY

HYATTE, NOLA
DONNIE

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